

Message Text

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TO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 077290

FOL RPT NEW DELHI 4934 ACTION SECSTATE USUN NY MOSCOW 6 APR 77
QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 4934

EO 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PFOR, US, UN, UNSC, SF, WA
SUBJ: SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE ON SOUTH AFRICA

REF: STAE 076300, USUN 1019

SUMMARY: AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S MESSAGE HAS BEEN DELIVERED
APRIL 6 TO JAIPAL AND SALIM, AND THROUGH SALIM TO
HARRIMAN (WHOM WE COULD NOT CONTACT DIRECTLY). JAIPAL
AND SALIM EXPRESSED STRONG SUPPORT FOR CONTINUED EFFORTS
TO OBTAIN SECURITY COUNCIL DECLARATION ON SOUTHERN
AFRICA. JAIPAL, SALIM AND HARRIMAN PLAN TO CONSULT
TOGETHER AND WILL GIVE US COORDINATED RESPONSE IN DAY
OR TWO. THEY WISH TO BE KEPT CLOSELY INFORMED ON DEVELOP-
MENTS IN NEW YORK. END SUMMARY.

1. ACTING POL COUNSELOR AND USUN OFFICER HIRSCH CALLED
ON AMBASSADOR JAIPAL ON APRIL 6 AT 9:30 AM TO DELIVER
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MESSAGE FROM AMBASSADOR YOUNG AND TO SEEK HIS VIEWS AS
TO HOW WE PROCEED IN SEEKING TO OBTAIN A DECLARATION ON
SOUTH AFRICA IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL.

2. JAIPAL, AFTER READING THE LETTER CAREFULLY, SAID
THAT HE DID NOT WANT TO GIVE AN IMMEDIATE AND UNCON-
SIDERED RESPONSE. INSTEAD, HE SAID, HE WANTED TO DIS-

CUSS THE MATTER WITH HARRIMAN, SALIM AND KAMANA (ZAMBIA) AND GET BACK TO US LATER ON. HIRSCH TOLD JAIPAL THAT EMBASSY HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO PASS ON THE SAME MESSAGE TO SALIM AND HARRIMAN.

3. JAIPAL SAID THAT HE WAS "COMPLETELY ON THE SAME WAVE LENGTH WITH AMBASSADOR YOUNG" REGARDING THE DESIRABILITY OF A DECLARATION, AND THAT IT WAS WORTH THE EFFORT TO TRY TO PREVENT THE PRESENT IMPASSE FROM LEADING TO A COMPLETE BREAKDOWN BETWEEN THE AFRICAN GROUP AND THE WESTERN FIVE. SALIM AND HARRIMAN, HE OBSERVED, ARE ALSO FIRMLY IN FAVOR OF CONCLUDING THE PRESENT SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE WITH ADOPTION OF A DECLARATION. HE THOUGHT THAT IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE FOR THEM TO DISCUSS THE MATTER WITH OTHER DELEGATIONS ATTENDING THE NEW DELHI MEETING.

4. JAIPAL TOLD US THAT BEFORE LEAVING NEW YORK HE HAD RECOMMENDED TO AMBASSADOR RAMPHUL THAT THE AFRICAN GROUP SHOULD NOT BRING THE FOUR RESOLUTIONS ON SOUTHERN AFRICA TO A VOTE AND THAT IT SHOULD AGREE INSTEAD TO DEFER DISCUSSION IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL TO ALLOW TIME FOR FURTHER INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS. HE ALSO TOLD RAMPHUL THAT HE HAD NOT EVEN SUBMITTED THE FOUR RESOLUTIONS TO HIS GOVERNMENT SINCE HE WAS HOPING THAT THERE WOULD BE NO NEED TO VOTE ON THEM.

5. JAIPAL EXPRESSED DOUBTS ABOUT THE UTILITY OF FURTHER CONSULTATION AT THIS STAGE BETWEEN THE MEMBERS OF THE CONFIDENTIAL

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AFRICAN GROUP IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL AND THE WESTERN FIVE. THE THREE AFRICAN REPRESENTATIVES FELT CONSTRAINED JUST TO LISTEN AND TO SEEK GUIDANCE FROM THE AFRICAN GROUP AS A WHOLE. WHILE HE DID NOT SAY SO, HE IMPLIED THAT IT MIGHT BE BETTER TO TALK WITH THE ENTIRE AFRICAN GROUP OR SOME OF THOSE WHO ARE NOT SECURITY COUNCIL MEMBERS.

6. JAIPAL SAID THAT LIBYA SEEMED TO BE ONE OF THE MAJOR OPPONENTS OF THE EFFORT TO WORK OUT A DECLARATION. THE LIBYAN REPRESENTATIVE HAD TOLD HIM THAT THE WHOLE PROJECT WAS SIMPLY AN EFFORT TO ENHANCE AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S PRESTIGE AND IN ANY CASE WOULD NOT SUCCEED IN CHANGING SOUTH AFRICAN OR RHODESIAN ATTITUDES ON SOUTHERN AFRICA. BENIN ALSO WAS UNHAPPY BUT COULD PERHAPS BE BROUGHT ABOUT TO RECONSIDER. THE SOUTH AFRICAN LIBERATION MOVEMENTS ALSO WERE AGAINST THE DECLARATION BECAUSE THEY WERE AFRAID THAT ITS ACCEPTANCE WOULD UNDERCUT THEIR OWN MORE MILITANT EFFORTS TO PUT PRESSURE ON

SOUTH AFRICA.

7. JAIPAL ALSO NOTED THAT THE SOVIETS SEEMED TO BE STRONGY AGAINST THE DECLARATION. THEY WERE TAKING A VERY LEGALISTIC ATTITUDE, CLAIMING THAT THE WORD "DECLARATION" WOULD ENHANCE THE STATUS OF THIS EFFORT BEYOND ITS TRUE WORTH. WHEN JAIPAL SUGGESTED THAT IT SIMPLY BE CALLED A "STATEMENT ON SOUTHERN AFRICA", THE SOVIETS HAD REPLIED THAT THEY WOULD THEN ONCE AGAIN WANT TO LOOK AT ITS CONTENTS BEFORE COMMITTING THEMSELVES. HE THOUGHT THAT THEY WERE ONLY PUTTING DOWN ARTIFICIAL OBJECTIONS AND DID NOT WANT A DECLARATION AT ALL. JAIPAL MADE IT CLEAR THAT IN HIS JUDGEMENT THE SOVIETS WERE OPPOSED TO ANY POTENTIALLY SUCCESSFUL AMERICAN INITIATIVE ON SOUTH AFRICA.

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8. AS REGARDS THE SCENE HERE, JAIPAL SAID HE ORGINIALLY HAD HOPED THAT THE SECURITY COUNCIL WOULD HAVE ADOPTED THE DECLARATION BEFORE THE NACCFM BEGAN. IN THAT CASE, HE WAS INTENDING TO SEEK MACCFM ENDORSEMENT FOR IT. INSTEAD, HE WOULD HAVE TO WORK NOW ON TRYING TO PREVENT THE NACCFM FROM ADOPTING A DECISION WHICH COULD FURTHER COMPLICATE THE SITUATION IN NEW YORK. HE SEEMED UNCLEAR AS TO HOW THIS MIGHT BE DONE, BUT SAID IT WOULD REQUIRE VERY CAREFUL CONSULTATION WITH PARTIES CONCERNED. WE AGREED TO STAY IN CONTACT WITH EACH OTHER.

9. HIRSCH DELIVERED MESSAGE TO AMBASSADOR SALIM AT 3 PM, EMPHASIZING OUR CONCERN ABOUT PRESENT IMPASSE AND OUR DESIRE TO CONTINUE EFFORTS TO OBTAIN A DECLARATION. IN A BRIEF CONVERSATION, SALIM SAID THE HE FULLY SHARES YOUNG'S CONCERN AND THAT, HAVING GONE SO FAR, HE DEFINITELY WANTS TO SEE SOME POSITIVE RESULT FROM THE CURRENT DEBATE. HE REASONED THAT FAILURE TO OBTAIN A DECLARATION WOULD MAKE ALL THOSE WHO TRIED TO NEGOTIATE IT LOOK FOOLISH, AND IT WOULD BE A GREAT LET-DOWN. THE FACT THAT THE AFRICAN GROUP HAS AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO A DECLARATION IS A CONSTRUCTIVE BASIS FOR CONTINUING THIS EFFORT. SALIM RECOMMENDED THAT YOUNG SHOULD TRY TO STALL THE NEW YORK CONSULTATIONS AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE IN ORDER TO PERMIT THE UN REPS IN NEW DELHI TO RETURN TO THE US BEFORE ANY FINAL DECISION IS REACHED. SALIM PLANS TO BE BACK IN NEW YORK ON APRIL 16. HE REQUESTED THAT YOUNG KEEP HIM, AS WELL AS HARRIMAN AND JAIPAL, INFORMED ON A TIMELY BASIS OF DEVELOPMENTS. (THIS ALSO WILL HELP US TO STAY IN TOUCH WITH THEM ON NACCFM DISCUSSIONS.)

10. WE WERE UNABLE TO CONTACT HARRIMAN DIRECTLY AND
INSTEAD ASKED SALIM TO PASS YOUNG'S MESSAGE ON TO HIM.
SALIM SIAD THAT HE WOULD DO SO.

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UNQUOTE VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Concepts: DEMARCHE, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, UNSC RESOLUTIONS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Enclosure: n/a
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TAGS: PFOR, PDEV, PDIP, US, SF, WA, UR, LY, XX, UN, UNSC, (YOUNG, ANDREW)
To: CAPE TOWN
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